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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT**15 MAY 2019**

(U) CALIFORNIA**(U) Menlo Park – Secure Messaging App Breached Leaving Users Vulnerable**

(U) A cybersecurity breach in Facebook's WhatsApp left users unknowingly vulnerable to malicious spyware installed on their smartphones, as disclosed by company representatives on 13 May. The security vulnerability affects both iPhone and Android devices, and WhatsApp is urging users to update their apps as soon as possible. WhatsApp, which is used by over 1.5 billion people, confirmed the vulnerability in a statement, but didn't name the perpetrator. The spyware was developed by Israeli cyber surveillance company NSO Group, according to media reporting. An NSO spokesperson stated that the company's technology is "licensed to authorized government agencies for the sole purpose of fighting crime and terror."

SOURCE: 14 May 2019, [USA Today](#)

(U) Pittsburg – Two Men Face Charges of Attempted Murder, Street Terrorism

(U) Two 20-year-old men have been charged with six counts of attempted murder, street terrorism, possession of a firearm by a felon, and fleeing a police officer while driving recklessly, in connection with a 9 May shooting in Pittsburg, according to Contra Costa County prosecutors. Contra Costa County sheriff's deputies apprehended the suspects and took them into custody.

SOURCE: 14 May 2019, [Bay City News](#)

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER**(U) Florida – Multiple Convictions of Foreign Nationals for International Cocaine Smuggling**

(U) Tampa – A federal jury has found two foreign nationals guilty of one count of conspiracy to distribute and to possess with the intent to distribute five-kilograms or more of cocaine. The defendants were part of an international maritime drug smuggling operation involving at least 600-kilograms of cocaine, worth approximately \$18 million, that was bound for the US.

SOURCE: 14 May 2019, [US DOJ Press Release](#)

(U) Georgia – Teens Sentenced to 40-Years for Plot to Attack Georgia High School

(U) Tampa – Two teenagers have been sentenced to 40-years in prison for plotting an attack on a Georgia high school they attended that included drafting a map of the campus and an apparent "hit list" of students and teachers they were targeting. Alfred Dupree III, 19, and Victoria McCurley, 18, will both serve 20-years in prison before serving the next 20-years on probation. After searching their homes, authorities discovered a journal detailing plans for the attack, which had no set timeline, along with a powdery substance that appeared to be a homemade explosive device.

SOURCE: 14 May 2019, [CBS News](#)

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UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY**(U) NATIONAL****(U) Florida – Florida Governor says Two Counties Hacked in 2016 Election**

(U) Tallahassee – Florida Governor Ron DeSantis revealed yesterday that a second county in the state was hacked during the 2016 election. Special counsel Robert Mueller's report on interference in the election said that "at least one" Florida county had been breached. DeSantis, who was briefed by the FBI on 10 May, said two counties "experienced intrusion into the supervisor of elections network," but added that there was no manipulation of the data, and that the intrusion "had no effect" on Florida vote totals. DeSantis's office acknowledged that the governor was briefed 14 May by the FBI and signed a nondisclosure agreement that prevents him from naming the two counties.

SOURCE: 14 May 2019, [CNN](#)

(U) New York – Three Alleged 18th Street Gang Members Indicted in Plot to Kill Rival MS-13 Members

(U) Suffolk – Three alleged 18th Street gang members have been indicted on charges they conspired to kill a pair of MS-13 gang rivals with machetes, authorities in Suffolk said yesterday. The alleged murder plot, which authorities said was discussed through text message and on social media in March and April, was thwarted by investigators when the suspects were arrested by federal agents with Homeland Security Investigations. They are members of the Tiny Locos or "TLS" clique of 18th Street, which is based in Port Jefferson Station.

SOURCE: 14 May 2019, [Newsday](#)

(U) Texas – Dozens of Arrests Made During Motorcycle Gang Crackdown

(U) El Paso – El Paso Police made 35 arrests and issued 118 citations during a Cinco de Mayo crackdown on motorcycle gangs. The three-day operation from 2-5 May was "conducted in response to the large number of outlaw motorcycle gang members anticipated to be visiting the city that weekend," police said. The El Paso Police Department's Gang, TAC and SWAT units participated in the operation along with partner, local, state and federal agencies from the Texas Anti-Gang Center.

SOURCE: 14 May 2019, [ABC-7](#)

(U) Texas – Former Mexican Police Officer Arrested on Drug Charges in Texas

(U) Oldham County – Former Mexican police officer, Contreras-Martinez, was arrested in Texas for plotting to distribute cocaine according to a Texas Department of Public Safety officer. When interviewed Contreras-Martinez admitted to trafficking contraband from California to Florida. The court documents said the suspect told officials he was transporting the drugs due to having little money after entering the US illegally around seven months ago.

SOURCE: 14 May 2019, [KCBD](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL**(U) Somalia – Three Killed as Suicide Bomber Detonates Car Bomb**

(U) Mogadishu – A suicide bomber detonated an explosive-laden vehicle at the gate of a district headquarters in Somalia's capital city, Mogadishu, killing at least three people according to local police. The bombing was the first since the beginning of the Muslim holy month of Ramzan, which is typically associated with elevated al-Shabaab activity.

SOURCE: 13 May 2019, [Daily Mail](#)

(U) Sri Lanka – Software Engineer Arrested for Providing Support to Easter Attackers

(U) Colombo – A Sri Lankan software engineer suspected by authorities in Sri Lanka of having provided technical and logistical support to the Easter Sunday suicide bombers was monitored by Indian

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intelligence agencies three years ago for links with Islamic State of Iraq and ash-Sham (ISIS) suspects, investigators said. Aadhil Ameez, a 24-year-old, was the link between two groups that carried out the attacks on churches and hotels that killed more than 250 people and wounded hundreds more. Aadhil has been arrested and is in police custody, the sources said. His arrest had not previously been made public, but in response to media inquiry the main spokesman for the Sri Lankan police confirmed Aadhil was taken into custody on 25 April, four days after the attacks.
SOURCE: 13 May 2019, [Reuters](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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